Acquisition of site.

429. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will the Government be pleased to inform :—

(a) when the first proposal for the acquisition of Survey No. 820/7 at Ernakulam was made ;

(b) the reason given for the acquisition ;

(c) will the Government be pleased to place the communication containing the proposal for the acquisition on the Table of this House ;

(d) the date on which the Diwan considered the reductions made by the Legislative Council in the course of the voting of demands for grants of the budget for the year 1104 ;

(e) will they be pleased to inform if any report upon the Proceedings of the Council with reference to the reductions was called for; if so, whether they will be pleased to place such report on the Table of this House ;

(f) the reasons that made the Diwan declare that it is essential to restore the reduction under P. W. D: (Building) of Rs. 20,000 ;

(g) will they be further pleased to state what the responsibilities of Government were or are that could not be discharged without restoring this demand ;

(h) whether they have received any protest from the Members of the Legislative Council regarding the restoration of Rs. 20,000; if so, will they be pleased to place a copy of it on the Table ;

(i) whether the protest was considered ; if so,

(j) what orders have been passed by the Government on the same?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) 9th February 1928.

(b) and (c). Vide copy of the joint report appended (*Vide Appenaix II*).

(d) 11th August 1928.

(e) No.

(f) and (g). The acquisition of the site was considered to be essential in public interest as the need for an office building for the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer was very pressing and as it formed a sequel to the Town Improvement scheme recommended by the Town Planning Expert to the Government of Madras which could not be carried out otherwise.

(h) Yes ; no useful public purpose will be served by placing a copy of it on the Table.

(i) Yes.

(j) Recorded.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know, Sir, if the house has been made to situate on the premises, whether the office in whose interest the site to the north of the hospital was acquired is situated on the premises?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I could not hear.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know whether the premises that have been acquired for making the Chief Medical Officer's office have been made use of for that purpose, namely, by making the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's office built there?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Survey No. 820/7, is not it?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Which officer is going to reply?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Any one.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Is the building intended to be used for the office of the Medical Officer made use of for that purpose?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It was not made use of.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It has been demolished. The other building is made use of.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is said here that the acquisition of the site was considered to be essential in public interest as the need for an office building for the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer was very pressing. I am not satisfied with the answer that it is not made use of now. What is the essential public interest served which has necessitated the restoration of this Rs. 20,000?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Please let me know what exactly you want.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know what was the public interest served to make the cut restored? For I have got an answer that the site is not made use of even now.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The site is being used. Every one can see it. It is one acquisition Proceedings. Both the building which was occupied by the Hon'ble Member at one time and the one where my office is now being held were acquired under one acquisition Proceedings. One we got possession of first, and the other when it came to us was found to be so dilapidated that it was not worth while spending any more money. This was explained to this House long before.

Mr A. B. Salem.—Is the site acquired made use of for the office?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—You will find it in Appendix II. 'Acquisition of this plot seemed desirable in any case as the Government have already acquired a compound directly to the east of it.'

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Even though the buildings are to be altered and made use of, even though it is not possible to alter the buildings and make use of them for the office of the Chief Medical Officer, in any case it is desirable to acquire that compound.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What is the present use that is made of the site on which A. B. Salem's house was standing?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Mr. A. B. Salem had no building there.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Occupied by A. B. Salem. A. B. Salem had a building. You seem to think that you know everything. Is that site being made use of now?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—As what place?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is an open yard attached to the office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That an open yard also was necessary was not mentioned in your communication.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It has been so informed. That is that sentence, that in any case the acquisition seemed desirable.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That was the report that was made. I am asking how it became *essential* in public interest to acquire a site. I am only asking the Government that question. The Government says that it is essential in public interest. That is the question I am at. How it became *essential*?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—What is referred to in the report is,..

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I am not asking upon the report. How it became *essential* in public interest?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The answer is given there. Read the answer, please, once more.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The answer is "the acquisition of the site was considered to be essential in public interest as the need for an office building.....was very pressing". No building put here. It is lying empty.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is a building there. Sir, the Hon'ble Member is making a difference. It is one acquisition Proceedings. He is splitting the whole thing into *his* building and *his* compound. Both these, the building in which my office is now held and the one which the Hon'ble Member once occupied, were intended to be used, not only the one that was occupied by Mr. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is no answer to my question. That site is not being used to put any building as was stated

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

originally. How it became *essential* to make the Diwan restore the grant which was cut by this House ?

President.—Why should all these questions be again put ? The Diwan considered it essential and restored it. Should not the matter end there ? Should we go further to the essentiality? May be you consider it is not essential. The Diwan considered it essential. Is it not left to his discretion ? Can it be questioned ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Even the purpose for which it was intended is not served.

President.—You are now emphasising upon the essentiality.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I am emphasising upon the fact that it was not at all essential because no use is made of the building which was acquired.

President.—The Diwan considered it essential.

Mr. A. B. Salem.— That has been contradicted here now.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No contradiction.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is said here in (f) and the reason is given. Those two questions are clubbed together, and the answer is given and I find that it was for locating the office building of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer and that it was very pressing. It is now elicited that the site is lying empty. Therefore, I ask how it became essential.

President.—Now it is an empty ground. At the time when the certificate was made, it was not empty. The building existed. There was an impression that this building also could be utilised for some purpose or other. Afterwards, when the building was closely examined, it was found that it was not fit for any purpose at all.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—That is in the report.

Mr. A. B. Salem.— I am not questioning about the building.

President.— Now it is lying empty.

Mr. A. B. Salem.— Where is the Medical Officer's building now, Sir ? He has got a building for the office.

President.—That is the northern building.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The southern building was not necessary, for the office one is provided for.

President.—It could not be utilised for the office.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The site is still necessary. The building is not necessary.

President.—When is this affair going to come to a close ? For several meetings we have had these questions (*laughter*). The whole thing has been threshed out. There may be difference

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

of opinion whether the Government did the right thing or the wrong thing. What is there to further comment about these matters ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—A public citizen was living there comfortably, and to shunt him out is a thing which cannot reflect any good upon any Government. For a public purpose to shunt out a private individual and never to make use of that building for the purpose for which it was acquired is abusing the powers vested in the Government, and that is the point upon which I want to emphasise.

President.—You take it as a deliberate conclusion upon which the Government acted in the present case.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I am not at all concerned now. It is all finished. I am putting the question so that the Government may hereafter, when they get a case like that, where a private citizen's convenience is to be disturbed, take care.

President.—They will take care.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Thank you. My purpose is only that.

Cochin Central Co-operative Bank.

430. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Table of the House Diwan's Proceedings:—

(1) P. No. 138/1102, dated 24th March 1927.

(2) Memorandum dated 2nd Karkadagam 1102 of the Executive Committee of the Cochin Central Bank; and,

(3) order of the Government Dis. 1030/D/1104 dated 25th March 1928 ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(1) A copy is placed on the Council Table.

(2) and (3). Government regret that in the interests of the Cochin Central Co-operative Bank the papers called for cannot be placed on the Table of the Council.

Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

431. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

i. if the Diwan has received a letter, dated 19th Vrischigam 1105, from M. R. Ry., M. Mukunda Raja Avergal, Kunnamkulam, containing very serious personal charges against the honesty of Mr. R. A. Gayatrinatha Ayyar, Registrar of Co-operative Societies in Cochin, in his official capacity;

ii. if so, what is the action taken on the same ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.— i. Yes.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

APPENDIX I.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 428.)

മഹാരാജമാന്യരാജശ്രീ

വലിയതമ്പുരാൻ തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ട് എഴുന്നള്ളി ഇരുന്നരുളുന്നടത്തു് സവ്വാധികാര്യക്കാർ യജമാനൻ അവർകൾ സമയംപോലെ ഉണത്തിപ്പാൻ താഴെ പേരെഴുതി ഒപ്പിട്ടുന്ന അടിയങ്ങൾ താഴ്മയോടെ ബോധിപ്പിക്കുന്ന ഹർജി.

ഇപ്പോൾ കടവന്ത്രയിൽ നിന്നും കോമൻതുരുത്തിയിലേക്കു ഇടുവാൻ തീവ്വുപ്പെട്ടുത്തി പണികൾ നടത്തിവരുന്ന പാലം വഴിയില്ലാത്ത ദിക്കിലാകുന്നു. വഴിയില്ലാത്ത ദിക്കിൽ പാലം കെട്ടിയാൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഉപകാരമായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ല. വഴി കിട്ടുന്നതിലേക്കു എളുപ്പമായ മാർഗ്ഗവുമില്ല. എല്ലാ ഭാഗവും നിലങ്ങളുമാകുന്നു. ടി പാലംപണി തീർന്നാൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് ഉപകാരമില്ലെന്നതന്നെയുമല്ല, കൃഷിക്കാക്കു പലവിധമായ ദോഷങ്ങൾ നേരിട്ടു കഷ്ടനഷ്ടങ്ങൾക്കും കൂടി ഇടയുള്ളതാകുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു ടി പാലം ടി സ്ഥലത്തു വേണ്ടെന്നവെക്കുവാനും ജനോപകാരമായും ഗതാഗതത്തിനു സൌകര്യമുള്ളതായും ഉള്ള സ്ഥലത്തേക്കു മാറ്റി തരുന്നതിലേക്കു് താഴ്മയായി അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

നെടുനിലത്തു് തോമൻ അഗസ്തീഞ്ഞ്
കടവന്ത്ര തോട്ടങ്കൽ അപ്പി കേളൻ
തിരുനിലത്തു് കോരൻ പാപ്പു
ഷാരത്തു് മത്തായി ലോനൻ
* * * * *, etc.

} Signed. 58 persons

APPENDIX II.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 429).

Letter 1230/1103, dated 9th February 1928, from the Chief Engineer, the Director of Public Instruction, the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer and the Anchal Superintendent.

"In the Diwan's Proceedings C. No. 434/1103, dated December 20, 1927, the Director of Public Instruction, Chief Engineer, Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, and the Anchal Superintendent were ordered to submit a report on the question of allocation of certain building sites in the town of Ernakulam. The following report is submitted in accordance with the above proceedings:—

Necessity for a good building in a suitable locality for the Ernakulam G. T. School is keenly felt. It is now held in ill-ventilated sheds which are too small for the growing needs of the institution. The site on which it is situated is, further, water-logged during the monscons and in general it may be said that it is unsuited for a school in a number of ways.

Similarly the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer is experiencing inconvenience for want of rooms to hold his office. This latter is now housed in a portion of the Ophthalmic Hospital. The rooms which are set apart for this purpose are so few that there is hardly space in them even to keep the records of the office not to speak of the accommodation for the establishment which is moderately large.

Satisfactory accommodation for the above two institutions has, therefore, to be found for which the site of the present Girls' High School has now become available.

It was proposed to shift the G. T. School and the Anchal Office to this site and to place the latter building thus vacated at the disposal of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

But the Superintendent of Anchal stated that the proposal cannot be agreed to as the new site will be unsuitable for locating the Anchal Office on account of its remoteness from the bazaars of Ernakulam. He, however, had no objection to shift his own office to the Girls' School. The question then of separating the Anchal and Superintendent's Offices was considered. It was proposed to locate the one somewhere near the bazaar and the other in the Girls' School. To procure suitable rooms for the Anchal Office near the bazaar appearing difficult and almost impossible if the Anchal Office should provide for quarters for the Anchal Master also, it was thought best to leave the present Anchal office buildings alone and to look for the accommodation of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's Office elsewhere.

For this purpose it was agreed to acquire a compound to the north of and adjoining the Hospital premises. This compound faces the Broadway and is now tenanted by Mr. A. B. Salem, M. L. C. It has two small buildings which for the time being with slight alterations could be made suitable for holding the Medical Office. Acquisition of this plot seemed desirable in any case as the Government have already acquired a compound directly to the east of it.

An alternative proposal to construct a separate office building in the Hospital compound to avoid acquisition of new plots had to be given up as no site for this purpose could be found there, which did not seem to interfere with the future expansions of the Hospital.

The proposals therefore are:—

1. To shift the Ernakulam G. T. School to the present Girls' High School.

And 2. To acquire the plot of ground to the north of the Hospital and to make such alterations as are necessary to buildings in it for making it convenient for the accommodation of the Office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

(Signed)
Chief Engineer.
(Signed)
Director of Public Instruction.
(Signed)
Anchal Superintendent.

The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer desires to add on his own account, that the need for an office building for him is so pressing that the Diwan may be pleased, if he deems fit, to apply the emergency clause of the Land Acquisition Regulation and take over the building referred to in this report for his immediate use without his having to wait another year or so, as the existing inconvenience is very great indeed.

(Signed)
Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

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